## <u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1-22 are originally issued claims from US Patent No. 6,321,793. Upon acceptance of the reissue application, claims 1, 17, 18 and 22 will hereby be amended and claims 23-44 will be added. The Applicants believe that the newly submitted claims are generally of the same scope to that of the originally issued claims. Furthermore, for the Examiners convenience, the applicant has included the claim chart below to demonstrate an antecedent basis for the new claims. Claims 1-44 will now be pending in the reissue application. The basis for this amendment is to claim subject matter which the applicant had the right to claim in the original patent.

New Claims	Support
23. The method of claim 1, wherein the flexible	Column 6, lines 60-67
barrier includes perforations to allow a small	
portion of the reinforcement material to flow onto	
an exterior surface of the flexible barrier.	
24. The method of claim 1, wherein the flexible	Column 2, lines 65-67
barrier comprises a structural adhesive.	
25. The method of claim 1, wherein the flexible	Column 2, lines 58-61
barrier has an integrated neck portion.	
26. The method of claim 25, wherein the neck	Column 2, lines 58-61
portion has an end portion for coupling the flexible	
barrier to a fluid pumping system for filling the	·
interior of the flexible bag.	
27. The method of claim 1, wherein the flexible	Column 3, lines 1-5
barrier has end portions joined by a center	
portion.	
28. The method of claim 1, wherein the flexible	Column 3, lines 18-23
barrier comprises two opposing movable end	
portions supported by a rod.	
29. The method of claim 1, further comprising	Column 6, lines 51-54
securing the flexible barrier member in position by	
securing a neck portion of the flexible barrier	
member to an adjacent surface defining an	
opening in the frame structure with an adhesive.  30. The method of claim 1, wherein the flexible	Column 6, line 55-59
barrier is coated with an adhesive material.	Column o, line 55-59
31. The method of claim 1, wherein the flexible	Fig. 3; column 6, lines 21-24
barrier includes an integrally formed neck as part	1 ig. 5, coluitii 5, lines 2 i 24
of an end portion of the flexible barrier.	
32. The method of claim 31, wherein the neck	Fig. 3; column 6, lines 16-24
portion extends directionally along the length of	, ig. 6, 66.a 6,66 . 6
the frame.	
33. The method of claim 1, wherein, during the	Column 4, lines 1-9
filling step, the thermally activated expandable	•
polymeric reinforcement material is a liquid, and	
upon curing becomes a thermoset material.	
34. The method of claim 1, wherein, prior to	Column 4, lines 1-9
curing, the thermally activated expandable	
polymeric reinforcement material is a pellet, and	

upon curing becomes a thermoset material.	
35. The method of claim 1, wherein the flexible	Column 3, lines 24-28
barrier member includes two single flexible	
sheets spaced a distance apart.	
36. A method of reinforcing a portion of an	Column 3, lines 50-53
automobile frame during initial assembly of an	·
automobile, the method comprising:	
collapsing side walls of a flexible barrier;	Column 5, lines 41-47 and column 3, lines 50-53
inserting the flexible barrier into a hollow	
center portion of an automobile frame during	
initial assembly of the automobile;	
	Original plaims 2 F C and 10 Fig. 7
inflating the flexible barrier; and	Original claims 3, 5, 6 and 10; Fig. 7
introducing reinforcement material into	Column 3, lines 35-39 and column 4, lines 57-59
the flexible barrier wherein the reinforcement	
material substantially assists in increasing the	
strength and stiffness of the automobile frame.	,
37. The method of claim 36, wherein the	Column 4, lines 30-32, column 2, lines 31-44
reinforcement material is a thermally activated	
expandable polymeric reinforcement material and	
the method further comprises a step of curing the	
thermally activated expandable polymeric	
reinforcement material to form a structural foam.	
38. A method of reinforcing at least a portion of a	Fig. 4 and 5; column 6, lines 36-50 and column 5,
hollow cavity, the method comprising:	lines 17-27
inserting a flexible barrier member within	11165 17-27
a cavity of a structure for dividing the cavity into	
one or more sections, the flexible member	
including two movable end portions supported by	
a rod; and	
filling one or more sections of the cavity	
with a pellet reinforcement material; and	
curing the pellet reinforcement material to	
cause the movable end portions to slide along the	
rod in opposite directions, wherein the	
reinforcement material substantially assists in	
increasing the strength and stiffness of the	
structure.	
39. A method of reinforcing at least a portion of a	Fig. 3; Column 6, lines 16-35
hollow cavity, the method comprising:	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
inserting a flexible barrier member into a	
cavity of a structure from an open end of the	
structure	
filling one or more sections of the cavity	
with a thermally activated expandable polymeric	
reinforcement material; and	
activating the thermally activated	
expandable polymeric reinforcement material to	
fill the cavity, wherein the reinforcement material	
substantially assists in increasing the strength	
and stiffness of the structure.	
40. The method of claim 39, wherein the filling	Fig. 3; Column 6, lines 16-24
step includes pumping thermally activated	
expandable polymeric reinforcement material into	
a neck portion of the flexible member that	
extends in the longitudinal direction of the	
structure.	
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41. The method of claim 40, further comprising	Column 6, lines 28-32
inflating the flexible barrier member with a fluid	Column 6, lines 20-02
under pressure.	
42. The method of claim 41, wherein the fluid	Fig. 3, lines 32-35
under pressure is introduced through another	
neck portion of the flexible barrier.	
43. A method of reinforcing at least a portion of a	Fig. 1 and 3; column 5, lines 36-67
hollow cavity, the method comprising:	
inserting a flexible barrier member into a	
cavity of a structure, the flexible barrier member	
including two end portions joined together by a	
center portion and defining a volume between the	
end portions and about the center portion;	
filling the volume with a thermally	
activated expandable polymeric reinforcement	
material; and	
activating the thermally activated	
expandable polymeric reinforcement material to fill the volume with the reinforcement material,	
wherein the reinforcement material substantially	
assists in increasing the strength and stiffness of	
the structure.	
44. The method of claim 40, wherein the	Column 4, lines 43-67
activating step includes exposing the	30.0
reinforcement material to a temperature ranging	
from approximately 93° C to approximately 204°	
C for activating expansion of the reinforcement	
material and forming a structural foam, and	
wherein upon expansion the structural foam	
reinforcement material substantially assists in	
increasing the strength and stiffness of an	
automobile frame structure.	

## **C** nclusions

In view of Applicant's amendments to the original application and remarks, applicant submits that claims 1-44 of the present reissue application are in condition for allowance and requests that the Examiner pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience. Should the Examiner have any question or wish to further discuss this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at (248) 593-9900.

If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1097 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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